

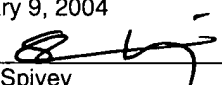


Handwritten: # 694 2856
cc

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: January 9, 2004


Christine M. Spivey

PATENT
36856.897

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yoshihiro KONAKA et al.	Art Unit: 2856
Serial No.: 09/846,861	
Filed: May 1, 2001	Examiner: H. C. Kwok
Title: PROCESS OF MAKING AN ACCELERATION DETECTING ELEMENT	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**Mail Stop DD
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, submitted herewith are copies of five (5) references cited in two different Examination Reports issued in corresponding Japanese and European Patent Application. For the Examiner's convenience, we have enclosed an English translation of the Japanese Examination Report and a completed Form PTO-1449. The statement is not a representation that all of the information cited is necessarily effective as prior art against the application.

Although the European Examination Report cited one additional reference (U.S. 6,044,707), Applicants do not include a copy of this reference as it was previously cited by the Examiner on May 7, 2003.

Applicants certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the date of this statement, and that this is the first citation of these prior art references by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application.

Applicants petition the Commissioner to consider this information disclosure statement pursuant to C.F.R. § 1.197(d). Enclosed is a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the petition fee. If any additional fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Applicants respectfully request that the disclosed references be made of record in the subject application.

Respectfully submitted,



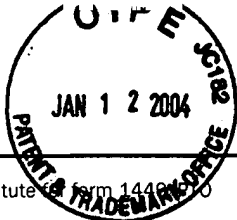
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

Joseph R. Keating
Registration No. 37,368

Christopher A. Bennett
Registration No. 46,710

Date: January 9, 2004

KEATING & BENNETT LLP
10400 Eaton Place, Suite 312
Fairfax, VA 22030
(703) 385-5200



Substitute for Form 1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet **1** of **1****Complete if Known**

Application Number	09/846,861
Filing Date	May 1, 2001
First Named Inventor	Yoshihiro KONAKA
Art Unit	2856
Examiner Name	H. C. Kwok
Attorney Docket Number	36856.897

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM -YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	5,992,233	11/1999	Clark	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM -YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number-Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	2	8-178667	7/1996	Japan		X
	3	11-044541	2/1999	Japan		X
	4	2000-105125	4/2000	Japan		X
	5	2001-304872	10/2001	Japan		X

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether of not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered, include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Abstract is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14.



File No. 32

Dispatch No. 416616

Date of Dispatch: December 2, 2003 1

NOTIFICATION OF REASONS FOR REJECTION

Patent Application No.: Patent Application No. 2000-133500
Draft Date: November 21, 2003
Patent Office Examiner: Mamiko Onodera 9505 2S00
Agent of Patent Applicant: Kiyoshi Igarashi
Applicable Sections: Section 29 (2), Section 29^{bis}, and Section 36

The present application should be rejected for the following reasons. If you have an opinion concerning this, please submit a statement of opinion within 60 days of the date of dispatch of this notification.

Reasons

(Reason 1)

The description of the claims of the present application does not satisfy the requirements stipulated in Section 36 (6) (ii) of the Patent Law in the following regards.

Note

[The phrase] “the driving monitoring means are provided in a barycentric region of said vibrating body” is found in Claims 1 through 3, but the range of the above-mentioned “barycentric region” is unclear.

(Reason 2)

The inventions claimed in the following claims of the present application are inventions that could easily have been invented prior to the filing of the application by a person having an ordinary knowledge of the technical field to which the inventions belong on the basis of inventions described in the following publications, which were disseminated in Japan or in foreign countries prior to the filing of the application. Thus, in accordance with the provisions of Section 29 (2) of the Patent Law, these inventions cannot be patented.

Note (For cited references, etc., see the Table of Cited References, etc.)

<Regarding Claims 1 and 2>

- Cited References 1 and 2 (see especially Figure 4) or 3 (see especially Figure 4)
- Remarks: Each of Cited References 1 through 3 describes a vibrator which has a vibrating body, driving means for causing this vibrating body to vibrate in a [pre]determined driving direction, and driving monitoring means for detecting vibration displacement in the driving direction of said vibrating body, and in which stabilization of vibration in the driving direction of

[Stamp: 12/17/03, Kumiko Saitoh]

said vibrating body is achieved by the positive feedback control of said driving means based on the state of the vibration displacement in the driving direction of said vibrating body that is detected by said driving monitoring means, wherein said driving monitoring means are provided in a barycentric region of said vibrating body, and are constructed so as to detect the vibration displacement in the driving direction of the barycentric region of the vibrating body.

<Regarding Claim 3>

- Cited Reference 1

- Remarks: Furthermore, it is indicated in Cited Reference 1 that the vibrating body has a double-frame structure formed by connecting an inner frame to the inside of an outer frame via a coupling beam so that [this vibrating body] is free to vibrate in the Coriolis force direction, that the above-mentioned outer frame and inner frame are integrally vibrated in the driving direction by the driving means, that the above-mentioned inner frame is constructed so as to be vibrated in the Coriolis force direction with respect to the outer frame due to the Coriolis force caused by the angular velocity, and that the driving monitoring means are provided in the barycentric region of the vibrating body that is located inside the above-mentioned inner frame while being supported by the above-mentioned inner frame.

(Reason 3)

The invention claimed in the following claim of the present application is the same as the invention described in the specification or drawings initially appended to the following patent application, which was filed prior to the filing date of the present application, and which was laid open following said filing; furthermore, the inventors of the present application are not the same as the persons who invented the above-mentioned invention involved in the patent application filed prior to said filing, and the applicant at the time of the present application is not the same as the applicant of the above-mentioned patent application. Thus, in accordance with the provisions of Section 29^{bis} of the Patent Law, the above-mentioned invention cannot be patented.

Note (For cited references, etc., see the Table of Cited References, etc.)

<Regarding Claim 1>

- Cited Reference 4

- Remarks: Cited Reference 4 describes a vibrator which has a vibrating body, driving means for causing this vibrating body to vibrate in a [pre]determined driving direction, and driving monitoring means for detecting vibration displacement in the driving direction of said vibrating body, and in which stabilization of vibration in the driving direction of said vibrating body is achieved by the positive feedback control of said driving means based on the state of the vibration displacement in the driving direction of said vibrating body that is detected by said driving monitoring means, wherein said driving monitoring means are provided in a barycentric region of said vibrating body, and are constructed so as to detect the vibration displacement in the driving direction of the barycentric region of the vibrating body (see especially Figure 10 and paragraph No. [0096]).

Table of Cited References, etc.

1. Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. 2000-105125
2. Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. H11-44541
3. Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. H8-178667
4. Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-327504 (Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. 2001-304872)

- This record of the results of a survey of prior art references does not constitute any reason for rejection.

If you have any inquiries regarding this Notification of Reasons for Rejection, or if you wish to have an interview regarding this application, please contact [the following department]:

Contact: Patent Examination Department 1, Measurement (Distance/Electrical Measurement)
Mamiko Onodera
TEL: 03-3581-1101 (extension 3256-3258)
FAX: 03-3501-0604